

# JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

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## 1963 WCCE DELEGATES SELECTED

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the NCC Church School Department, Japanese delegates to the 1963 World Conference on Christian Education to be held in England were selected. Takihiko Yamakita, chairman of the Executive Committee, Shinji Iwamura of the Kyodan and Atsumi Tasaka of the Japan Lutheran Church will go as delegates. Toshio Ota, professor at the Japan Biblical Seminary and Miss G. MacDonald, a missionary serving in Japan will attend as observers.

## SCHOOL UNION CALLS FOR CLEAN-UP

Keimei Girls School, Masahisa Hida, President and J. B. Cobb, President of the Board of Trustees, was founded in 1924 by Miss C. G. Holland, a Methodist missionary from the U.S.A. The School includes a Jr. High School and Sr. High School and has an enrollment of 1050.

In June of this year the teachers at Keimei Girls School in Kobe organized a union and became affiliated with the Japan Christian School Teachers Union which now includes 28 Christian Schools in its organization.

Recently, Chairman Kishimoto of the Keimei union's executive committee distributed a pamphlet among parents of the students and to others, appealing for a clean-up of the school. Chairman Sakurai (Aoyama Gakuin) of the Japan Christian School Teacher's Union published a petition in support.

According to the pamphlet there are only 16 full-time teachers for the



22 classes of students; part-time teachers hold important positions such as assistant to the president, dean of students, head of the curriculum department and head of the guidance department; recently two members of the union were relieved of their duties as class sponsors; also, a member of the union has been fired and the head of the union has been urged to leave the school.

The following demands were presented to the Board of Trustees:

- 1) Rectify the present situation where the school's administration is under the dictatorial management of the President to an administration which is under the autonomous management of the Board of Trustees.
- 2) Make public the administration of the school.
- 3) Draw up a basic plan for a substantial educational program.
- 4) Carry out a normal Parent-Teachers Association program.
- 5) Conclude a fair labor agreement with the union to guarantee the teacher's status.
- 6) Retract all demands in the recent firing, changing of jobs and urging to leave.
- 7) Establish a fair salary base.
- 8) Take responsible action concerning problems related to the hiring of full-time public school teachers for part-time work here at Keimei.

#### JAPANESE DELEGATION TO NEW DELHI

The Japanese delegation to the Third World Assembly of the WCC met on October 4 for their second consultation to prepare for reports and discussion at New Delhi and to make plans for a visit to various Southeast Asia countries on the way to the Assembly.

Formal delegates from Japan are Kyodan Moderator Shirai, Kyodan General Affairs Chairman Niwa, Kyodan Secretary C. H. Germany, Head of the Yokosuka Social Center Abe, Keitaro Nishimura of the Seikokai, Moderator Muto and General Secretary Hirai of the NCC, and WCC Central Committee members M. Kozaki and Rikkyo Professor Enkichi Kan. Those to attend as consultant observers are Kentaro Buma of Church World Service, M. Takenaka of Doshisha University, Kiyoko Cho of International Christian University, Mikio Sumiya of Tokyo University, Yoshimitsu Endo of Rikkyo University, Chitose Kishi of the Japan Lutheran Church and a youth representative yet to be designated.

#### KYODAN-RELATED DEFINED

The Council of Cooperation's Cooperative Policy Committee met on October 4 to continue efforts to formulate a clear definition of the relationship of the Kyodan to the Christian Schools and Social Work Institutions.

Working from a rough draft prepared by Rev. Isamu Omura, chairman of the Committee (the draft was actually a modification of a tentative draft worked out by the Committee on September 6 based on suggestions submitted by Arakawa, a member of the Executive Committee of the Kyodan and a former President of Kyushu University) the following proposal was produced:

Definition of Kyodan-Related Schools, Social Work Institutions and Other Bodies:

- 1) Kyodan-Related Schools are schools affiliated with the Association of Interboard Committee (IBC) Related Schools, a constituent member



- of the Council of Cooperation (COC).
- 2) Kyodan-Related Social Work Institutions are Social Work Institutions affiliated with the Social Work League, a constituent member of the COC.
  - 3) Those organizations not included in the two above groups must fulfill the following conditions and receive the approval of the Executive Committee of the Kyodan Before being recognized as Kyodan-Related:
    - a) Must stand on an evangelical Christian faith.
    - b) Must cooperate with the Kyodan in witnessing.
    - c) Must fall under more than one of the following:
      1. Receive financial aid from the Kyodan.
      2. Have a number of Kyodan recommended members on the Board of Trustees.
      3. Have a number of IBC-related missionaries on the Board of Trustees.
      4. The head is a minister or layman of the Kyodan.
      5. Have a number of the Board of Trustees who are ministers or laymen of the Kyodan.

The above proposal must receive the approval of the General Assembly of the Association of IBC-Related Schools and the General Assembly of the Christian Social Work League before final approval can be given by the Executive Committee of the Kyodan.

#### OUTCAST WORKERS MEET

The West Japan Outcast Settlement Evangelists Conference was held jointly with the Kyodan's West Central Japan Kyoku (District) Social Problems Seminar at the Hiroshima Christian Social Center from September 6 - 8. The purpose of the Conference was to investigate and chart the future course of Christian social action in the area of the outcast settlement problem.

Each day was opened with worship, including a sermon.

On the first day, Professor Kudo of Meiji Gakuin, speaking on the topic of "The Church and Society," stressed that the church must confront the social problems of the area in which it is located with an adequate understanding of the special characteristics of the area. On the same evening Kiichi Matsuda, vice-chairman of the League for Emancipation of the Outcasts, spoke concerning the actual conditions of discrimination today, and Sekiichi Nishimura, Socialist Diet member, spoke on "Discrimination and the Gospel."

On the second day, a panel discussion considered "Overcoming Social Contradictions and the Peace Movement." All the speakers on the panel appealed strongly to the Christian's social responsibility. In the afternoon, two group discussions had as their respective topics "Discrimination and Poverty" and "Peace and Freedom". At the combined discussion which followed, it was stated that in order for the church to truly reform its posture, it should confront social problems and accomplish this coordinated study and the conferences should be planned on the Kyodan, Kyoku and local church levels to investigate the outcast, shrine and peace problems.

On the third day, a discussion, on "Outcast Settlement Evangelism Policy", was led by Kazuo Nomoto, chairman of the Kyodan Social Committee. The temporary



report, put out by the Social Committee in January of last year, was discussed and as a result a strong desire was voiced for the inclusion of the outcast problem under the "Guiding Principles for Social Action" section in the soon to be formulated "Basic Policy of the Mission of the Church."

